

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02 ORM-01 NEA-10

AF-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 /121 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3548

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TUDTLN/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 981
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL 17
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14601

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PO, EEC

SUBJECT: EC FONMINS COUNCIL AND POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING
IN LUXEMBORUG

REF: EC BRUSSELS 08967

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1. AMBASSADOR PLAJA, MFA DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS GAVE DCM AND POL COUNSELOR A RUNDOWN ON FONMIN AND POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG OCTOBER 6-7. THE FONMINS AGENDA WAS LIMITED TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL; THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED MBFR AND CYPRUS. NEXT MEETING OF FONMINS WILL BE IN ROME ON OCTOBER 30; POLITICAL DIRECTORS WILL MEET IN ROME ON OCTOBER 20.

2. SPAIN: PLAJA CHARACTERIZED THE DISCUSSION AS "VERY DIFFICULT" BECAUSE OF FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN ATTITUDES TOWARD SPAIN. BRITAIN AND OTHERS ARGUED FOR A CONDEMNATION OF SPAIN. IRELAND AND FRANCE ARGUED STRONGLY AGAINST ANY CONDEMNATION, BOTH TAKING ESSENTIALLY A JURIDICAL POSITION. IN ADDITION THE FRENCH WERE VERY CRITICAL OF THE EC COMMISSION FOR HAVING EXCEEDED ITS AUTHORITY IN BREAKING OFF THE SPAIN-EEC NEGOTIATIONS. THE HEATED ARGUMENT CONCLUDED WITH A GENERAL AGREEMENT NOT TO RENEW THOSE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT PLAJA EXPECTS THAT AFTER A COOLING OFF PERIOD THEY WILL BE RESUMED. THE FONMINS ALSO DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF RETURNING THE RECALLED AMBASSADORS TO MADRID. THERE WAS A GENERAL FEELING THAT THEY SHOULD GO BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND SOME HAVE ALREADY DONE SO. HOWEVER, SINCE SOME OF THE MEMBERS (INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY ITALY) WOULD HAVE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS IF THEY RETURNED THEIR AMBASSADORS IMMEDIATELY, THE FONMINS DID NOT ANNOUNCE AN AGREED POLICY. THEY DID HOWEVER AGREE THAT INDIVIDUAL MISSIONS IN MADRID WOULD BILATERALLY IMPRESS ON THE GOS THE IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING A "SPIRAL OF VIOLENCE". PLAJA ANTICIPATES THAT MOST MISSIONS WILL MAINTAIN A CORRECT BUT COOL ATTITUDE IN MADRID FOR SOME TIME.

3. PORTUGAL: PLAJA HAD LITTLE TO ADD TO THE REPORT IN REF A. HE DID SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENTS AGREED TO SPEED UP THE GUARANTEE PROCESS AND TO HAVE THE EC ASSIST WITH FORMULATION OF AN INVESTMENT PLAN SO THAT THE MONEY COULD BE AVAILABLE TO PORTUGAL WITHIN 12 MONTHS. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE FON MINS AGREED THAT INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS WOULD URGENTLY EXPLORE WAYS IN WHICH THEY COULD PROVIDE SOME BILATERAL MONETARY

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ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. THEY ALSO AGREED TO EXPLORE THE COMMODITY NEEDS OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES AND TO ATTEMPT TO MAKE SUCH COMMODITIES AVAILABLE QUICKLY (E.G., DRIED MILK, BLANKETS, CLOTHING, BUTTER OIL, ETC.).

4. CYPRUS: THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS REVIEWED THE CYPRUS SITUATION AND INSTRUCTED ITALY, AS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION, TO PURSUE THE MATTER IN

ANKARA, ATHENS, AND CYPRUS. ITALY WILL NOT PROPOSE PARTICULAR SOLUTIONS OR STEPS AND WILL CONCENTRATE MOST PRESSURE ON TURKEY (AFTER THE ELECTIONS), URGING IT TO COME UP WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON TERRITORY AND REFUGEES. IF IT APPEARS THAT THE TURKS ARE PREPARED TO MAKE REASONABLE PROPOSALS, THE EC-NINE WILL URGE ATHENS AND NICOSIA TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS. BEFORE TAKING ANY ACTION IN ANKARA, ITALY WILL COORDINATE WITH UNSYG WALDHEIM; IT ALSO WISHES TO CONSULT WITH THE US. GOI IS INTERESTED IN ANY INITIATIVES WHICH USG MAY BE PLANNING AND ALSO IN HOW WE VIEW THE PROBLEM AND PROSPECTS FOR MOVEMENT. GOI IS INTERESTED IN USG VIEWS ON BOTH SUBSTANCE AND TIMING. PLAJA CHARACTERIZED THE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE ARMS EMBARGO AS A POSITIVE STEP AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT TURKEY WOULD, AS A RESULT, BE MORE AMENABLE TO ACTION ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

5. MBFR: THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS, PARTICULARLY AT THE INITIATIVE OF GERMANY, ATTEMPTED TO DISCUSS THE POLITICAL IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY OF MBFR. PLAJA SAID THAT THE DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE. ONE OF THE OBJECTS, AS PLAJA SEES IT, IS TO ENGAGE THE FRENCH (WHO WERE PREDICTABLY NEGATIVE), IN VIEW OF THE LONG TERM POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF AN MBFR AGREEMENT FOR A UNITED EUROPE. THE ONLY AGREEMENT REACHED WAS TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AGAIN AT THE NEXT MEETING. IN THE MEANTIME, THE GERMANS AND THE BELGIANS WILL ATTEMPT TO WRITE AN OUTLINE OF THE ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM ON WHICH THEY BELIEVE THE EC SHOULD FOCUS. PLAJA EMPHASIZED THAT THIS DISCUSSION WAS LIMITED (AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE) TO THE LONG TERM POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF MBFR; ALL RECOGNIZED, HE SAID, THAT THE PROPER FORUM FOR

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DISCUSSION OF MBFR IS NATO. HE NOTED THAT SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAD MEMBERS OF THEIR NATO MISSION STAFFS PRESENT FOR THE DISCUSSION. VOLPE

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